

Appl. No. 09/761,447
Amdt. dated December 16, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 16, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

20-40 (cancelled).

41. (new) A method for transmission of a facsimile message with alternative delivery options, said method comprising:

receiving a converted facsimile message that has been converted
from a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) format
to a packet-based network (PBN) format;
determining the recipient of said converted message;
determining an activity status of said recipient;
checking recipient delivery options designated by said recipient;
sending said converted message to a recipient-proximate
site over said packet-based network, reconverting
said converted message back to a PSTN format and
delivering said reconverted message to said
recipient over a PSTN network extending between
said recipient and said recipient-proximate site
when said recipient is active; and

Appl. No. 09/761,447
Amdt. dated December 16, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 16, 2005

sending said converted message to said recipient using an
alternative address and alternative delivery method
defined in said recipient delivery options when said
recipient is not active.

42. (new) The method of claim 41 wherein said converted facsimile message has been converted with a Hyper-Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server.
43. (new) The method of claim 41 wherein said recipient-proximate site is in the same telephone area code as the recipient.
44. (new) The method of claim 41 wherein said alternative address is and e-mail address and said alternative delivery method is e-mail transmission.
45. (new) The method of claim 41 wherein said alternative address and alternative delivery method comprise storing said converted facsimile message on a network resource until said recipient becomes active and sending said converted facsimile message to said recipient when said recipient becomes active.
46. (new) The method of claim 41 wherein said alternative address and alternative delivery method comprise an alternative recipient phone number.

Appl. No. 09/761,447
Amdt. dated December 16, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 16, 2005

47. (new) The method of claim 41 wherein said alternative address and said alternative delivery method comprise establishing a connection to said recipient, sending an activation message over said connection to activate said recipient and then sending said converted message to a recipient-proximate site over said packet-based network, reconverting said converted message back to a PSTN format and delivering said reconverted message to said recipient over a PSTN network extending between said recipient and said recipient-proximate site.

48. (new) The method of claim 41 wherein said alternative address and said alternative delivery method comprise reconverting said converted message back to a PSTN format and delivering said reconverted message to said recipient over a PSTN network extending between said recipient and a location where said reversion occurs.

49. (new) A method for alternative transmission of a facsimile message based on recipient activity status, said method comprising:

- receiving a facsimile message;
- determining the recipient of said facsimile message;
- determining an activity status of said recipient;
- checking pre-determined recipient delivery options designated by said recipient;

Appl. No. 09/761,447
Amdt. dated December 16, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 16, 2005

sending said facsimile message to a recipient-proximate
site over a non-PSTN network and delivering said
message to said recipient over a PSTN network
extending between said recipient and said recipient-
proximate site when said recipient is active; and
sending said facsimile message to said recipient using an
alternative delivery method defined in said recipient
delivery options when said recipient is not active.

50. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein said alternative delivery method comprises sending said facsimile message to said recipient over a PSTN network extending between said recipient and a location said receiving occurs.
51. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein said alternative delivery method comprises establishing a connection to said recipient, sending an activation message over said connection to activate said recipient and then sending said facsimile message to a recipient-proximate site over said packet-based network, and delivering said reconverted message to said recipient over a PSTN network extending between said recipient and said recipient-proximate site.
52. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein said alternative delivery method comprises an e-mail transmission.

Appl. No. 09/761,447
Amdt. dated December 16, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 16, 2005

53. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein said alternative delivery method comprises storing said facsimile message on a network resource until said recipient becomes active and sending said facsimile message to said recipient when said recipient becomes active.
54. (new) The method of claim 49 further comprising converting said facsimile message to a packet-based format after said receiving and converting said converted, packet-based message to a PSTN format after said sending over a non-PSTN network.
55. (new) A system for alternative transmission of a facsimile message based on recipient activity status, said system comprising:
- a receiver for receiving a facsimile message;
 - a recipient detector for determining the recipient of said facsimile message;
 - an activity detector for determining an activity status of said recipient;
 - a delivery option reader for checking pre-determined recipient delivery options designated by said recipient;
 - a non-PSTN sender for sending said facsimile message to a recipient-proximate site over a non-PSTN network;

Appl. No. 09/761,447
Amdt. dated December 16, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 16, 2005

a PSTN delivery mechanism for delivering said message to
said recipient over a PSTN network extending
between said recipient and said recipient-proximate
site when said recipient is active; and
an alternative sender for sending said facsimile message to
said recipient using an alternative delivery method
defined in said recipient delivery options when said
recipient is not active.

56. (new) The system of claim 55 further comprising a converter for converting said facsimile message to a non-PSTN format.
57. (new) The system of claim 55 further comprising a reconverter for converting said facsimile message from a non-PSTN format to a PSTN format.
58. (new) The system of claim 55 wherein said alternative sender comprises an e-mail sender.
59. (new) The system of claim 55 wherein said alternative sender comprises a store forward system.

Appl. No. 09/761,447
Amdt. dated December 16, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 16, 2005

60. (new) The system of claim 55 wherein said alternative sender comprises a system for activating said recipient through a communication connection.